

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The amendment filed on November 20, 2008, was not entered for formal reasons. Applicants have now removed the underline in the new paragraph in the specification.

Applicants greatly appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter herein, to which the claims have been limited.

In particular, the limitation of Claim 5 has been incorporated into Claim 1. In addition, Claim 1 has been amended for clarity. See, e.g., the paragraph bridging specification pages 4-5. Similarly, Claims 4, 6, 7, 9, and 10 have been amended to correct dependency and clarify the claims. Claim 11, indicated as being directed to allowable subject matter, has been made independent and generic to the three disposal methods of allowable Claims 11, 12, and 13. Claims 12 and 13 each have been amended to require one of the three methods of amended Claim 11, and new Claim 15 has been added to require the disposal method originally described in Claim 11. New Claim 16 is modeled on amended Claim 1, and includes the limitation of allowable Claim 5, but omits step b) from original Claim 1 requiring either isolation of sulfur from the suspension or disposal of the suspension. While it is recognized that certain suspension disposal methods can lend patentability to the claims (see, e.g., Claims 11-13 and 15) isolation or disposal is not required to establish patentability in the presence of the limitation of original Claim 5. Finally, new Claims 17-19 simply specify one of the two alternatives in amended Claim 1 by specifically requiring that sulfur be isolated from the sulfur suspension. No new matter has been entered.

The above amendments address the outstanding issues with regard to 35 USC 112 and the claim objections. In addition, the specification has been amended to include a reference to the National Stage filing. For the Examiner's information, the term "deadsorbed" can be thought of as the opposite of adsorbed, i.e., de-adsorbed.

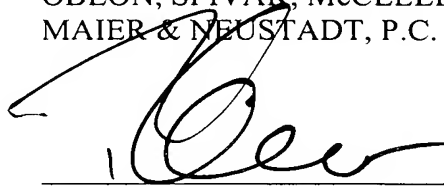
Application No. 10/594,759

Reply to Office Action of October 15, 2008 and the Office Communication dated December 2, 2008

Because the claims have been limited to subject matter indicated as allowable, and because the present application and application Serial No. 12/160,939 are commonly assigned (copies of Assignments attached) and because a Terminal Disclaimer over co-pending application 12/160,939 is attached,<sup>1</sup> Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance, and early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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<sup>1</sup> *Quad Env'tl. Technologies Corp. v. Union Sanitary Dist.*, 20 USPQ2d 1392 (Fed. Cir. 1991).